An Operators...

...and other metaphors.

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What I’m going to say…

- What do I have to do?
- Collaboration, it’s been around forever and more than 30 years in the Joint Planning and Execution Community (JPEC). Does or should it make a difference?
- Better understood techniques offer great promise. We need better Decision Support Systems (tools) to make collaboration work better.
- Technology provides an enabler…not the be all, end all.
  - The Twelve Collaboration Truths
- Application of technology to this problem , the solution set, solves individual’s problems. You are unlikely to find a single solution or solution set that solves every “operational requirement”.
- Solve the problem for communities of interest and let the mob sort itself out.

What do I have to do?

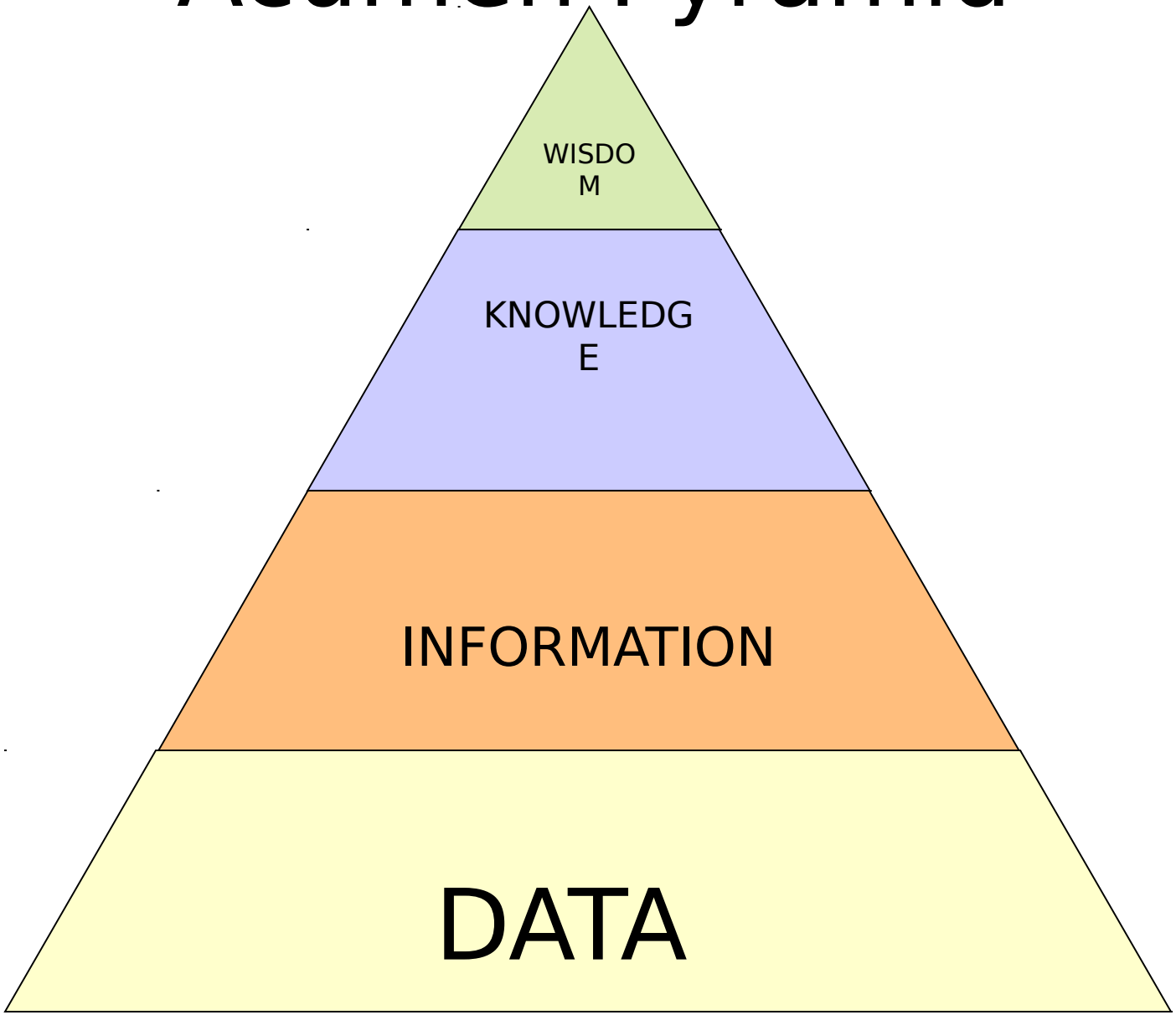
- I am a minor of data.
- I fashion data into information.
- I am a decision-maker.
- I am a facilitator.
- I am a presenter.
- I am a fountain of knowledge.
- Occasionally, I have flashes of wisdom.

I am, at one time or another, all of the above. Technology needs to support my varied roles

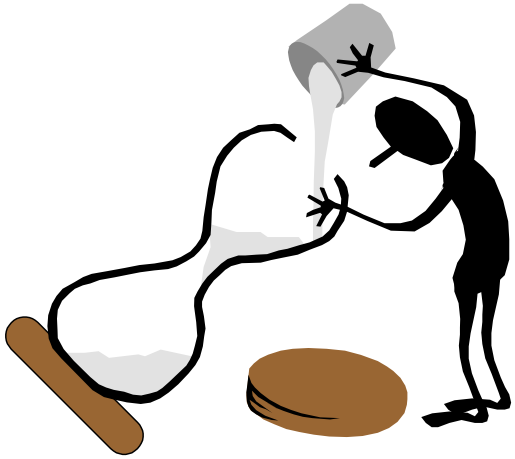
The problem: Global Scale

The inability to connect any/all of the worldwide users to widely distributed data and information via the SIPRNET specifically, (including narrow and intermittent connected channels) with sufficient speed and reliability to facilitate strategic, theater, operational, and tactical decisions is the fundamental problem.

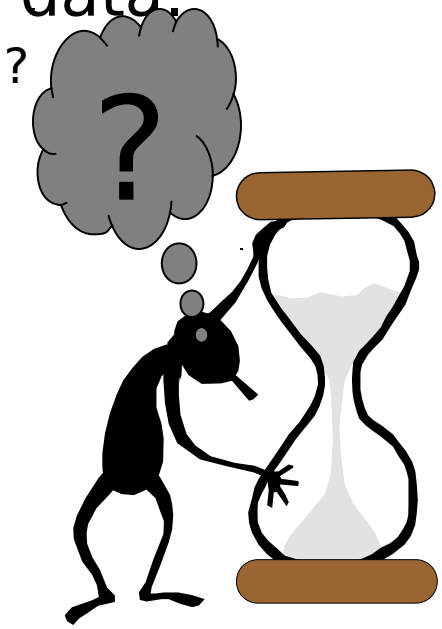
Acumen Pyramid



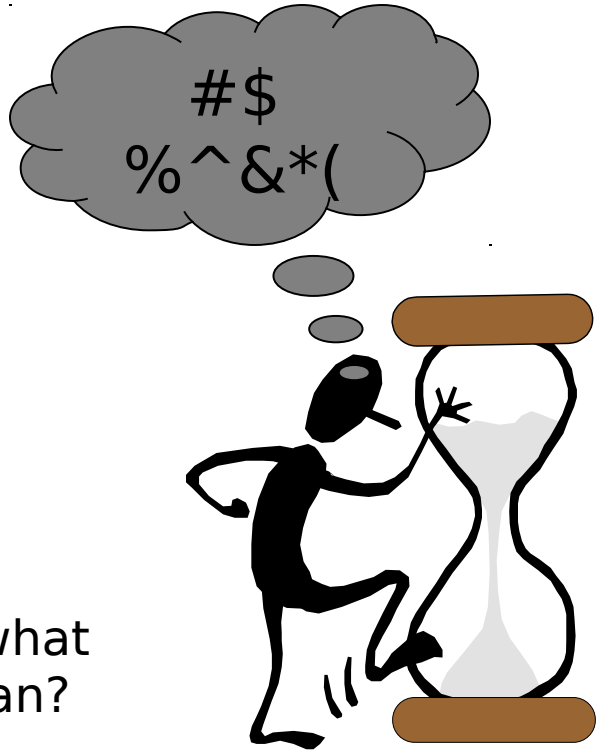
Data is like the sands of time, you get the good and the bad together.



Sample (scoop) up the data.

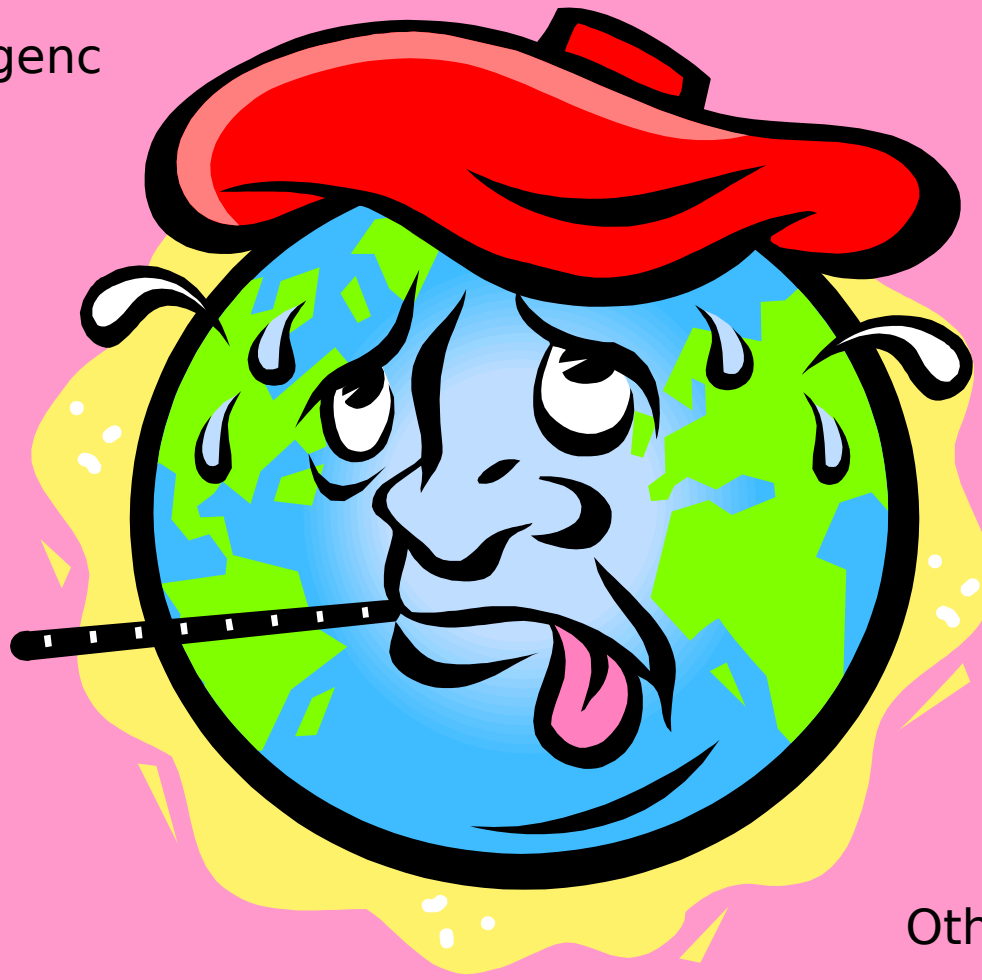


Process the data to make information.



Let me see, what does this mean?

Wisdom? Continuum



Intelligenc
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cia

papers

cnn

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history

foxnews

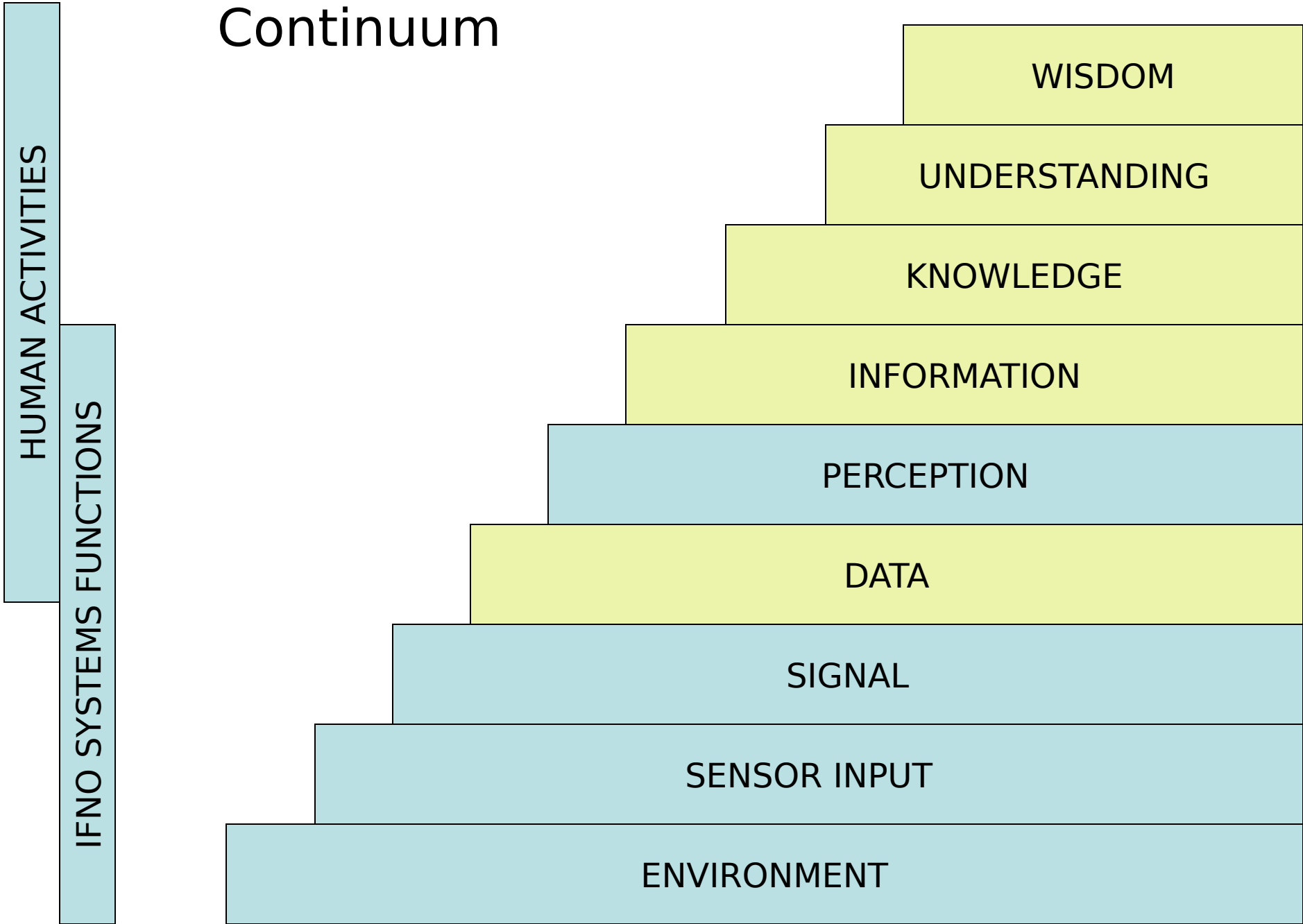
Other people

ENVIRONMENT

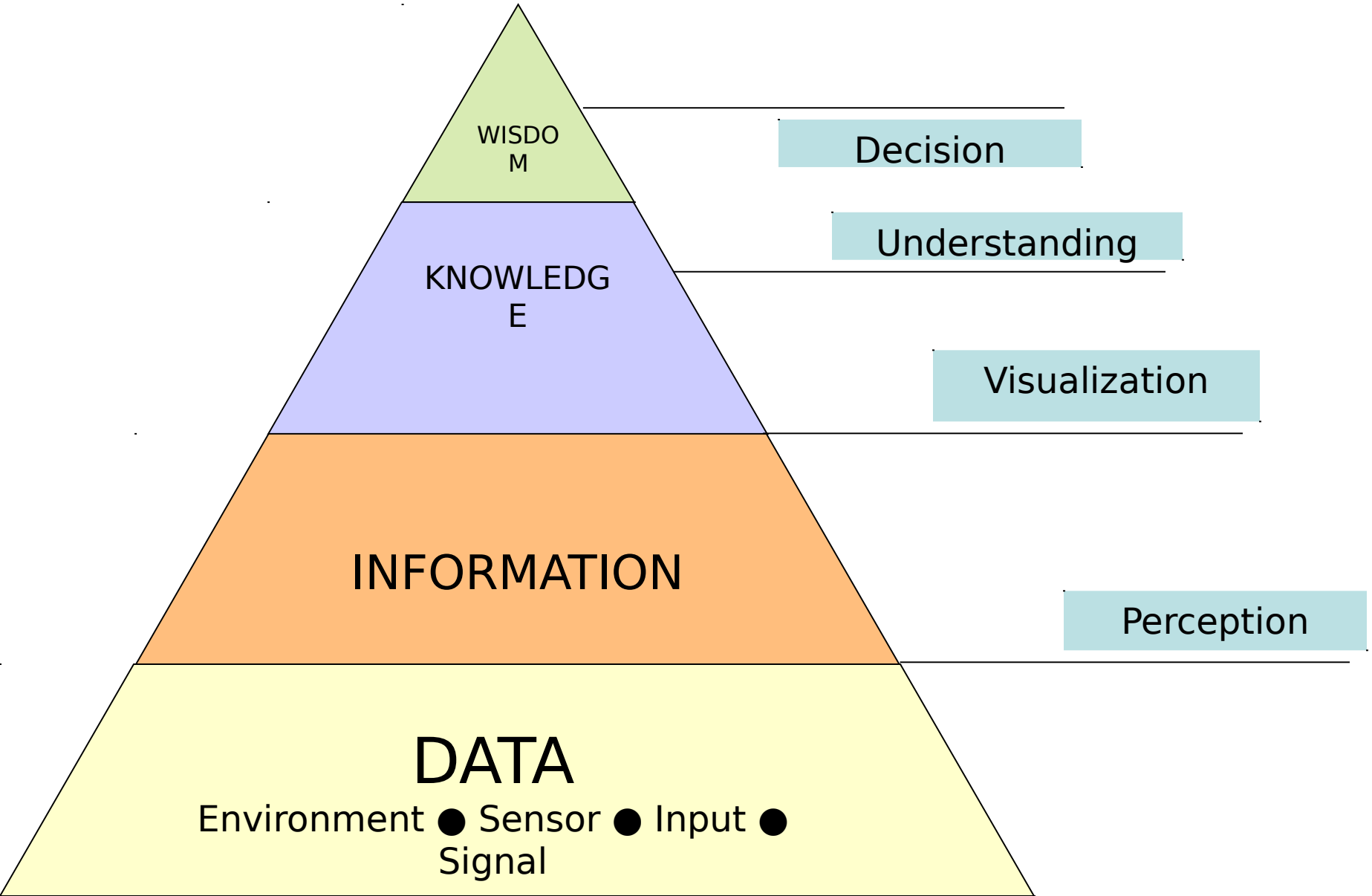
Data/Information

- The difficulty is in getting data and/or information to the right place, to the right person, at the right time, in a decision-able format to allow strategic, theater, operational, and tactical decisions.
- Few understand existing processes, fewer yet have the understanding to make decisions on how to change our processes to take advantage of new enabling technologies.

Wisdom? Continuum



Acumen Pyramid



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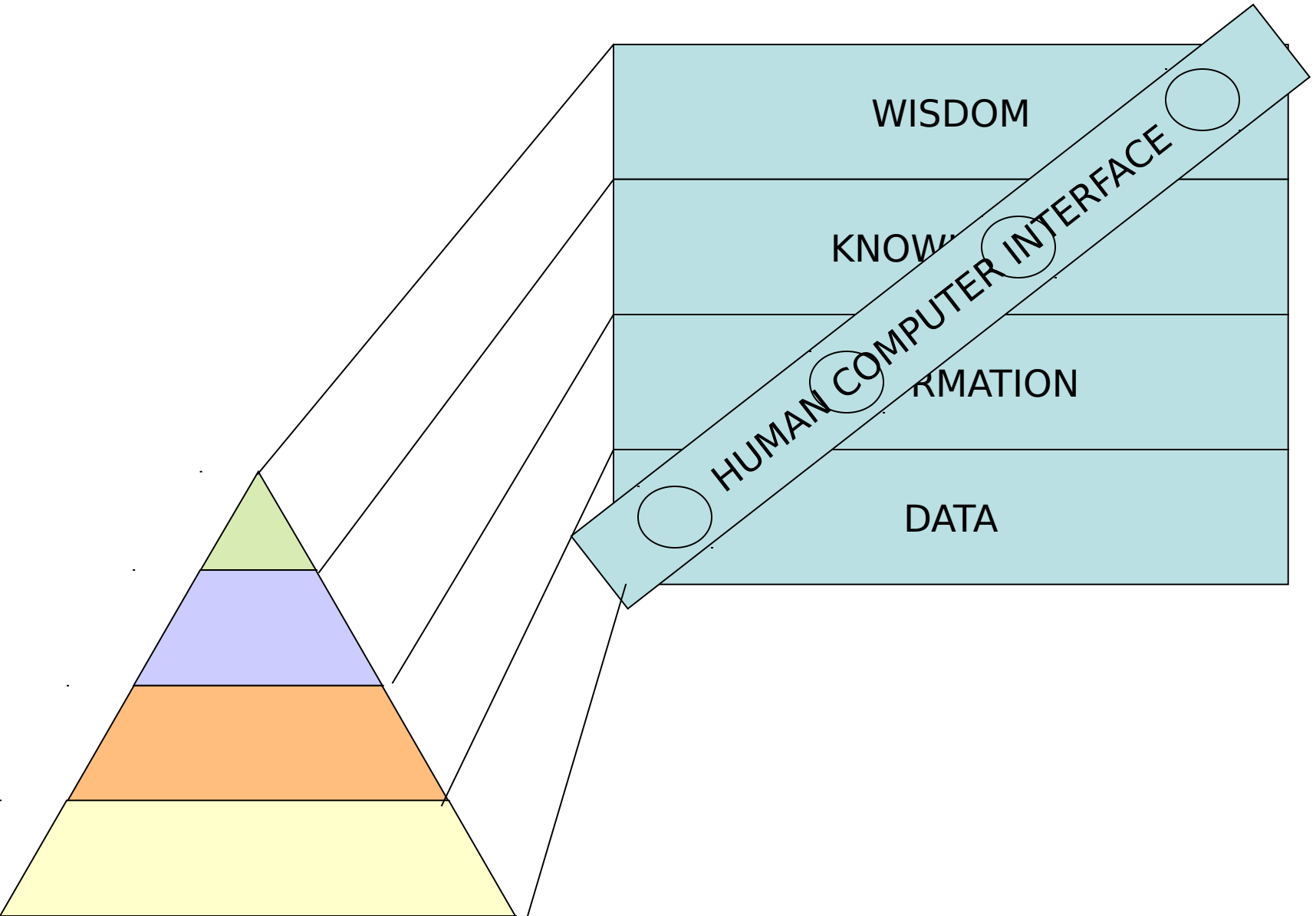

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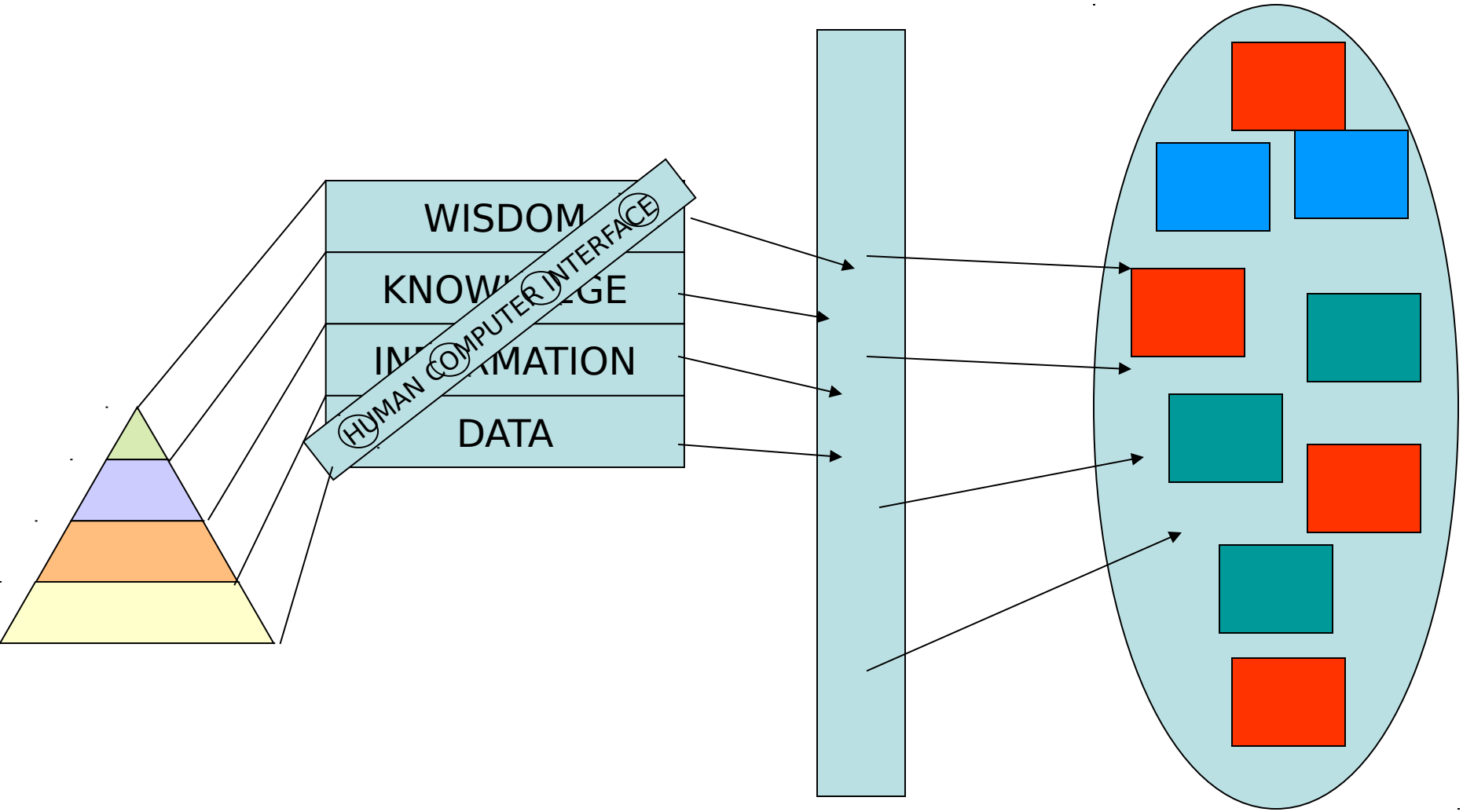

Process

- Key to understanding.
- Never followed except by machines.
- Tells you where collaborative tools will work for a single individual in a single circumstance.
- But, it should lead you to a point where you can satisfy most needs, most of the time.

Historical Use

- Newsgoups/OPNotes
- Email
- Webpages
- Autodin messages
- Databases
  - TPFDD
  - GSORTS
  - ?

Collaboration

- Two or more people,
- Shared problem,
- With shared data, and
- At the end of their collaboration, they leave a product behind.

The collaborators may operated across organizational, time, and distance.

Virtual Teams

- The concept escapes most.
- Little tolerance in a crisis. It either works the first time, every time, or it isn’t used.
- Databases supporting Virtual Teams do not exist.
  - *In crisis or not*

Challenges

- Shared data is the key to collaboration
  - Stored in accessible databases
  - Stored on collaborators computers (peer-to-peer)
  - Or, both?
- The ability to collaborate in an environment where participants have varying bandwidth and may not be connected all the time
  - Asynchronous
  - Synchronous
- Reengineer processes to take advantage of collaboration tools